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Annual Report

OF THE TOWN OF

GROTON

NEW HAMPSHIRE



YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1948


Annual Reports
of the
Selectmen, Clerk, Treasurer,
Road Agents, School Board and
Other Officials
of the
Town of Groton
for the
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1948

The Colby Press, Rumney Depot, N. H.

352.07

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1948



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Town Officers for 1948

Moderator.....	Agnes A. Lane
Town Clerk.....	Ileene A. Matthews
Selectmen	Floyd H. Colby, Charles F. Place Frank E. Matthews
Road Agents.....	Perley Matthews, Chas. H Tarr
Snow Removal.....	Ernest Matthews
Treasurer.....	Ileene A. Matthews
Tax Collector.....	Annie M. Esty
Land Agents.....	Selectmen
Librarian.....	Agnes A. Lane
Police	Edgar Albert
Overseer of Poor	Floyd Colby
Health Officer	Frederick Taylor
Auditors.....	Flora Matthews, Violet G. Parris
School Board	Violet Parris Yvonne Stevens, Annie Esty
School District Clerk and Treasurer ..	Ileene A. Matthews
Trustees of Trust Funds....	Agnes A. Lane, Floyd H. Colby Orville G. Matthews
Library Trustees.....	Violet Parris, Ileene A. Matthews Flora Matthews
Surveyors of Wood, Lumber, Bark and Fence Viewers	
.....	Lucien Parris, Floyd Colby
Janitor	Floyd Colby
Constable	Floyd Colby
Fire Warden	Ernest Matthews
Deputy Wardens	Lucien Parris, Floyd Colby Samuel E. Lane, Edgar Albert

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the inhabitants of the Town of Groton in the County of Grafton in said State qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at The Town House in said Groton, on Tuesday, the eighth day of March, next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to act upon the following subjects:

1. To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

2. To raise such sums of money as may be necessary to defray town charges for the ensuing year and make appropriations of the same.

3. To see if the town will vote to accept the budget as printed and make appropriations for same.

4. To see if the town will vote to give a discount on property taxes paid on or before August first 1948.

5. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money in anticipation of taxes.

6. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42.00 for the Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee Region Association.

7. To see if the town will vote to petition the State Tax Commission to have an audit made by the Division of Municipal Accounting, and to make an appropriation to cover the expense of such an audit.

8. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$679.50, and the State will contribute \$2,038.00 for State Aid Construction on the Cheever Road.

9. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$186.95, and the State will contribute \$747.78 for Town Road Aid.

10. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30.00 to mow the Town House yard and the Rolfe Hill Cemetery.

11. To see what sum of money the town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Sceve Speare Memorial Hospital of Plymouth, N. H.

12. To see if the town will vote to authorize the Moderator to appoint a Town Forest Committee of five persons consisting of the three Selectmen and one person from each village; North and South Groton; to study the town lands now held as tax defaulted lands, and to determine what lands should be disposed of.

13. If the preceeding article is adopted, to see if the town will vote to authorize said Town Forest Committee to administer and dispose of any real estate acquired by tax collectors deed, or wood and timber therefrom, and to authorize the Town Treasurer to set up a special fund of funds from the sale of tax defaulted lands of wood and timber therefrom, and said special fund to be used by the Town Forest Committee in its study of town owned lands hereunder.

14. To see what action the town will take towards buying new snow removal equipment and make appropriation to cover same.

15. To see if the town will vote to have one road agent for both the North and South ends of town.

16. And to transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands and seal, this Sixteenth day of February in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and Forty-nine.

FLOYD H. COLBY,
FRANK E. MATTHEWS,
Selectmen of Groton

A true copy of Warrant—Attest:

FLOYD H. COLBY,
FRANK E. MATTHEWS,
Selectmen of Groton

BUDGET OF THE TOWN
Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures for the
Compared with Estimated and Actual Revenue, Appropriations

SOURCE OF REVENUE	Estimated Revenue Previous 1948 Year	Actual Revenue Previous 1948 Year	Estimated Revenue Ensuing 1949 Year
FROM STATE:			
Interest and Dividends Tax	55.19	64.25	64.25
Savings Bank Tax	21.90	26.41	26.41
Reimbursement a-c State and Fed forest lands	31.24	29.97	29.97
For Fighting Forest Fires	100.00	37.78	100.00
FROM LOCAL SOURCES EXCEPT TAXES:			
Rent of Town Hall and Other Buildings	75.00	40.00	50.00
Interest Received on Taxes and Deposits	48.17	65.04	60.00
Income Highway Dept., inc. rentals	500.00	860.30	500.00
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	139.04	141.97	140.00
Sale of Town Property	300.00	729.57	500.00
Cash Surplus	829.76	829.76	1,766.41
FROM LOCAL TAXES OTHER THAN PROPERTY TAXES:			
Poll Taxes	104.00	108.00	100.00
TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES			
EXCEPT PROPERTY TAXES	2,204.30	2,933.05	3,337.04
Amount to be Raised by Property Taxes	13,889.41	12,242.26	13,678.00
Total Revenues	\$16,093.71	15,175.31	17,015.04

OF GROTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Ensuing Year January 1, 1949 to December 31, 1949

and Expenditures of the Previous Year January 1, 1948 to December 31, 1948

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	Approp. Previous Year 1948	Actual Expenditures Previous Year 1948	Estimated Expend. Ensuing Year 1949
CURRENT MAINTENANCE EXPENSES			
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:			
Town Officers' Salaries	1,000.00	691.20	1,000.00
Town Officers' Expenses	600.00	365.38	600.00
Election and Registration Expenses	150.00	226.40	150.00
Expenses Town Hall and Other Bldgs.	50.00	28.00	35.00
PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY:			
Police Department	15.00	8.00	15.00
Fire Department	300.00	113.99	300.00
Moth Extermination—Blister Rust	200.00	200.00	
HEALTH:			
Health Department	25.00	13.45	625.00
Vital Statistics	3.00	5.00	5.00
HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES:			
Town Maintenance: Summer	2,750.00	3,239.55	2,000.00
Winter	1,750.00	1,727.72	1,750.00
General Expenses of Highway Department	1,000.00	587.38	1,000.00
Town Road Aid			186.95
Library	200.00	200.00	200.00
PUBLIC WELFARE:			
Town Poor	50.00		50.00
Old Age Assistance	250.00	274.20	275.00
PUBLIC SERVICE ENTERPRISES:			
Cemeteries	30.00	22.00	30.00
UNCLASSIFIED:			
Damages and Legal Expenses	50.00		50.00
Advertising and Regional Associations	42.00	42.00	42.00
Bank Charges			
INTEREST:			
On Temporary Loans	20.00		20.00
HIGHWAYS AND BRIDGES:			
State Aid Construction—Town's Share	696.00	696.00	679.50
New Equipment			2,500.00
PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTAL DIVISIONS:			
County Taxes	1,165.12	1,107.09	1,107.09
Payments to School District	3,744.28	3,744.28	4,394.50
Total Expenditures	\$14,090.40	13,291.64	17,015.04

COMPARATIVE OF APPROPRIATIONS

Fiscal Year Ending

Title of Appropriation.	Appropriations - Receipts and Reimbursements	
Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,000.00	.....
Town Officers' Expenses	600.00	.....
Election and Registration	150.00	.....
Town Hall Expense	50.00	.....
Police Department	15.00	.....
Fire Department	300.00	37.78
Blister Rust	200.00	.....
Health Department	25.00	.....
Vital Statistics	3.00	.....
Town Maintenance (Summer)	2,750.00	.....
Town Maintenance (Winter)	1,750.00	860.30
General Expense of Highway Depart.	1,000.00	.....
Library	200.00	.....
Town Poor	50.00	.....
Old Age Assistance	250.00	.....
Cemeteries	30.00	.....
Damages and Legal Expenses	50.00	.....
Advertising and Regional Ass'ns	42.00	.....
Interest on Temporary Loans	20.00	.....
State Aid Construction	696.00	.....
County Taxes	1,165.12	.....
Payments to School District	3,744.28	.....
Totals	\$ 14,090.40	\$ 858.08

**STATEMENT
AND EXPENDITURES**

December 31, 1948

	Total Amt. Available	Expendi- itures	Unexpended Balances	Overdraft
.....\$	1,000.00	691.20	308.80	
.....	600.00	365.38	234.62	
.....	150.00	226.40		76.40
.....	50.00	28.00	22.00	
.....	15.00	8.00	7.00	
.....	337.78	113.99	223.79	
.....	200.00	200.00		
.....	25.00	13.45	11.55	
.....	3.00	5.00		2.00
.....	2,750.00	3,239.55		489.55
.....	2,610.30	1,727.72	882.28	
.....	1,000.00	587.38	412.62	
.....	200.00	200.00		
.....	50.00		50.00	
.....	250.00	274.20		24.20
.....	30.00	22.00	8.00	
.....	50.00		50.00	
.....	42.00	42.00		
.....	20.00		20.00	
.....	696.00	696.00		
.....	1,165.12	1,107.09	58.03	
.....	3,744.28	3,744.28		
	14,988.48	13,291.64	2,288.69	592.15

Net Unexpended Balance over Overdraft \$1,696.54

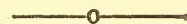
STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS
AND TAXES ASSESSED

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 1,000.00
Town Officers' Expenses	600.00
Election and Registration Expenses	150.00
Town Hall and Buildings	50.00
Police Department	15.00
Fire Department	300.00
Blister Rust—Moth Extermination	200.00
Health Department	25.00
Vital Statistics	3.00
State Aid Construction	696.00
Town Maintenance	4,500.00
Bank Charges	3.30
General Expenses of Highway Department	1,000.00
Libraries	200.00
Old Age Assistance	250.00
Town Poor	50.00
Cemeteries	30.00
Damages and Legal Expenses	50.00
Advertising and Regional Associations	42.00
Interest	20.00
County Tax	1,107.09
School Tax	3,744.28
<hr/>	
Total Town and School Appropriations	\$ 14,035.67

Less: Interest and Dividend tax	\$ 63.90	
Savings Bank Tax	21.90	
Reimbursm't State and Fed land	31.24	
Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	139.04	
Rent of Town Property	575.00	
Interest Received on Taxes	48.17	
Sale of Tax Deeded Property	300.00	
Cash Surplus	829.76	
		<hr/>
Total Revenues and Credits	\$ 2,009.01	
		<hr/>
	\$ 12,026.66	
Plus overlay	560.34	
		<hr/>
Less: Poll taxes at \$2.00	112.00	
		<hr/>
Amount to be raised by property taxes on which tax rate is figured	\$ 12,475.00	
Town tax rate	\$2.75	
Taxes to be committed to Collector:		
Property taxes	\$ 12,475.00	
Poll taxes at \$2.00	112.00	
		<hr/>
Total taxes to be committed	\$ 12,587.00	

SUMMARY OF INVENTORY

Land and Buildings	\$ 188,880.00
Growing Wood and Timber	49,100.00
Electric Plants (3)	193,930.00
Horses, 24	2,425.00
Cows, 29	3,145.00
Other Neat Stock 1	75.00
Fowls, 300	375.00
Wood, Lumber, etc.	10,000.00
Gasoline Pumps and Tanks 3	210.00
Mills and Machinery	5,500.00
<hr/>	
Total Valuation	\$ 453,640.00
56 Poll Taxes at \$2.00	112.00
<hr/>	
Total Amount to be Committed to Collector	\$ 12,587.00
Tax rate per \$100	\$ 2.75
Soldiers' exemptions	8,050.00
Number of inventories sent out	151
Number of inventories returned	62



CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records and is complete to the best of our knowledge and belief.

Floyd H. Colby,
Charles F. Place,
Thomas Newton,

June 9, 1948

Selectmen of Groton

TOWN OF GROTON BALANCE SHEET

Town of Groton	Assets
Cash, In hands of Treasurer	\$ 1,766.41
Capital Reserve Fund:	
For Construction of Kidder Bridge	4,077.49
Accounts due to Town from State:	
Joint Highway Const. Account, Unexp'd Bal.	2,088.00
Bounties	151.50
Unredeemed Taxes	
Levy of 1947	311.41
Levy of 1946	214.80
Uncollected Taxes:	
Levy of 1948	1,297.50
Levy of 1947	11.00
Levy of 1946	9.60
Previous years	260.42
Total Assets	\$ 10,188.13
Net Surplus, December 31, 1947	3,263.97
Net Surplus, December 31, 1948	4,022.64
Increase of Surplus	758.67

Town of Groton	Liabilities
State and Town Joint Highway Construction Accounts:	
Unexpended balance in State Treasury	\$ 2,088.00
Capital Reserve Fund:	
Capital Reserve Fund	4,077.49
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,165.49
Surplus	4,022.64
Grand Total	\$ 10,188.13

Town of Groton**Receipts****Current Revenue:****From Local Taxes:**

Property taxes, current year	\$ 10,921.36
Poll taxes, current year	84.00
Total current years taxes collected	11,005.36
Property taxes, previous years	1,320.90
Poll taxes, previous years	24.00
Interest received on taxes	65.04
Tax sales redeemed	89.08

From State:

Plowing roads	860.30
Interest and Dividend tax	64.25
Savings Bank tax	26.41
Reimbursement a-c State and Fed. forest lands	29.97
Fighting forest fires	37.78
Bounties	200.50

From Local Sources Except Taxes:

Dog licenses	61.00
Rent of town property	40.00
Registration of Motor Vehicles, 1948 permits	141.97
Refund on Blister Rust	16.34
Sale of town property	729.57

Total Receipts Other Than Current Revenue	745.91
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Total Receipts From all Sources	\$ 14,712.47
Cash on hand January 1, 1948	2,891.76

Grand Total	\$ 17,604.23
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Town of Groton	Payments
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Current Maintenance Expenses:**General Government:**

Town officers' salaries	\$ 691.20
Town officers' expenses	365.38
Election and registration expenses	226.40
Expenses town hall and other town buildings	28.00

Protection of Persons and Property:

Police department	8.00
Fire department, inc. forest fires	113.99
Moth Extermination—Blister Rust	200.00
Bounties	151.50

Health:

Health department	13.45
Vital statistics	5.00

Highways and Bridges:

Town maintenance, Summer	3,239.55	
Winter	1,727.72	
	4,967.27	
General expenses of highway dept.		537.33

Library:

Library	200.00
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Public Welfare:

Old age assistance	274.20
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Public Service Enterprised:

Cemeteries	22.00
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Unclassified:

Advertising and Regional Associations	42.00
Taxes bought by town	333.68

Outlay for New Construction and Permanent Improvement:

Highways and Bridges, State Aid construction	696.00
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Indebtedness:

Payment to Capital Reserve fund		2,000 00
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Payments to Other Governmental Divisions:

Taxes paid to County		1,107.09
Payment to School District	3,744.28	
Dog licenses	61.00	
	<hr/>	3,805.28

Total Payments for all Purposes:	\$	15,837.82
Cash on hand, December 31, 1948		1,766.41
	<hr/>	
Grand Total	\$	17,604.23

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SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town Hall, Lands and Buildings	\$	1,200.00
Furniture and equipment		200.00
Library, Land and Building		1,000.00
Furniture and equipment		1,500.00
Fire Department equipment		100.00
Highway Department, Lands and Buildings		1,000.00
Equipment		4,500.00
Schools, Land and Buildings		2,200.00
Equipment		600.00
All Lands and Buildings acquired through Tax Collector's deeds		46,128.65
	<hr/>	
Total	\$	58,428.65

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Auto tax collected	\$	141.97
Dog tax collected	\$ 65.00	
Less Clerk's fees	4.00	
		<hr/>
		61.00
		<hr/>
Total		202.97
Paid to Treasurer		202.97

No fires for the year 1948

Respectfully submitted,
 ILEENE A. MATTHEWS
 Town Clerk

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1948

Debits

Taxes committed to Collector

Property taxes	\$	12,475.38
Poll taxes		112.00
Total Warrant	\$	12,587.38
Added Taxes		
Property Taxes		44.00
Poll Tax		2.00
Interest		.46
		<hr/>
Total Debits	\$	12,633.84

Credits

Remittances to treasurer:

Property taxes	\$ 10,921.36
Poll taxes	84.00
Interest	.46
Discount	285.89
Abatement	44.63

Uncollected taxes:

Property taxes	1,269.50
Poll taxes	28.00

Total Credit	\$ 12,633.84
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Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1947**Debit**

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948:

Property taxes	\$ 1,359.90
Poll taxes	24.00
Added poll tax	2.00
Interest	64.58

Total Debits	\$ 1,450.48
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Credits

Remittances to treasurer:

Property tax	\$ 1,320.90
Poll taxes	24.00
Interest	64.58
Abatement	30.00

Uncollected taxes

Property taxes	9.00
Poll tax	2.00

Total Credits	\$ 1,450.48
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Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1946**Debits**

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948	\$ 9.60
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Total Debsit	\$ 9.60
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	Credits	
Uncollected taxes	\$	9.60
Total Credits		9.60

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1945

	Debits	
Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948		8.05
Total Debits	\$	8.05
	Credits	
Uncollected taxes	\$	8.05
Total Credits	\$	8.05

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1944

	Debits	
Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948		18.48
Total Debits		18.48
	Credits	
Uncollected taxes	\$	18.48
Total Credits		18.48

Summary of Warrant Levy of 1943

	Debits	
Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948		66.60
Total Debits	\$	66.60
	Credits	
Uncollected taxes	\$	66.60
Total Credits	\$	66.60

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1942

	Debits	
Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948:	\$	46.35
Total Debits	\$	46.35

Credits

Uncollected taxes	\$	46.35
Total Credits	\$	46.35

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1941

Debits

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948	\$	61.01
Total Debits	\$	61.01

Credits

Uncollected taxes	\$	61.01
Total Credits	\$	61.01

Summary of Warrant —Levy of 1940

Debits

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948	\$	32.03
Total Debits	\$	32.03

Credits

Abatement	\$	2.73
Uncollected taxes	\$	29.30
Total Credits	\$	32.03

Summary of Warrant—Levy of 1939

Debits

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948	\$	17.91
Total Debits	\$	17.91

Credits

Uncollected taxes	\$	16.43
Abatement		1.48
Total Credits	\$	17.91

Summary of Warrant Levy of 1938

Debits

Uncollected taxes as of January 1, 1948	\$	14.20
Total debits	\$	14.20

Credits

Uncollected taxes	\$	14.20
Total credits	\$	14.20

Summary of Tax Sales Accounts as of December 31, 1948

Debits

Tax Sale on Account of Levy of

	1947	1946	1945
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes, January 1, 1948	\$395.30	\$290.97	127.77
Interest collected after sale	.31	1.90	7.76
Total Debits	\$395.61	292.87	\$135.53

Credits

Remittances to Treasurer	11.98	21.09	66.01
Deeds	72.22	56.98	56.01
Unredeemed taxes	311.41	214.80	
Total Credits	\$395.61	292.87	135.53

ANNIE M. ESTY, Collector of Taxes

TREASURERS' REPORT

Annie M. Esty, Collector, Property, polls, 1947	\$ 1,032.00
Interest	43.80
Property and polls, 1948	11,005.36
Interest	.46
Taxes redeemed	89.08
Taxes bought by Town	312.90
Interest	20.78
State of N. H., Plowing roads	860.30
Bounties	200.50
Reimbursement on Forest Fire Mtg.	7.78
" Forest Fire Prevention	14.06
" to Fire Dept.	7.75
State share Forest Fire bill	8.19
Refund Pine Blister Rust	16.34
Reimbursement on State owned lands	29.97
Savings Bank tax	26.41
Interest and Dividends tax	64.25
Carroll Matthews, Chains bought of Town	10.00
Carl Bowles, Rent of Sargent place	40.00
Edgar Albert, Sale of buildings	30.00
Paul Adams, Sale of junk	29.57
Ned Albert, Payment on mine buildings	10.00
Harold Matthews, Sale of land	150.00
Earle M. Barney, Sale of land	500.00
Town Clerk, Auto Permit fees	141.97
Town Clerk, Dog tax	61.00
Total Receipts	\$ 14,712.47
Balance in treasury, January 1, 1948	2,891.76
Total	17,604.23
Less Selectmen's orders paid	15,837.82
Balance	1,766.41

Respectfully submitted,
 ILEENE A. MATTHEWS, Treasurer.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS

—o—

Cash on hand, Jan. 1, 1948	\$	2,891.76
Annie M. Esty, Collector: 1948 Property tax	\$	10,921.36
1947 Property tax		1,008.00
1948 Poll taxes		84.00
1947 Poll taxes		24.00
Interest on taxes		65.04
Taxes redeemed		89.08
Taxes bought by Town		312.90
State of N. H., Reimbursement Forest Fire Protection		37.78
" State owned lands		29.97
Bounties		200.50
Savings Bank Tax		26.41
Interest and Dividends tax		64.25
Refund on Blister Rust		16.34
Town Clerk: Auto Permit fees		141.97
Dog tax		61.00
Carl M. Bowles, rent of Sargent place		40.00
Carroll Matthews, chains bought of Town		10.00
Edgar Albert, Payment on Mine Buildings		40.00
Paul Adams, Sale of junk		29.57
Harold Matthews, Sale of land		150.00
Earle M. Barney, Sale of land		500.00
State of N. H., Plowing roads		860.30
Total Receipts	\$	17,604.23

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

 General Government

Town Officers' Salaries:

Violet Parris, Auditor	\$	17.60
Flora Matthews, Auditor		24.40
Floyd H. Colby, Selectman		178.00
Charles F. Place, Selectman		108.00
Thomas Newton, Selectman		53.80
Samuel E. Lane, Selectman		34.40
Thomas Newton, Oversecr, one half year		12.50
Floyd H. Colby, Overseer one half year		12.50
Ileene A. Matthews, Clerk and treasurer		110.00
Annie M. Esty, Tax Collector,		140.00
Total	\$	691.20

Town Officers' Expenses:

Violet Parris, Auditor	\$	6.00
Samuel E. Lane, Selectman		10.20
Floyd Colby, Selectman		31.17
Thomas Newton, Selectman		11.35
Annie M. Esty, Tax Collector		53.62
Ileene A Matthews, Clerk and Treasurer		23 94
Ileene A Matthews, Auto Permit fee		22 50
John C Ray, Town Officers Bonds		42 50
Ass'n of N. H. Assessors, Dues		2.00
Anna D. Proctor, 1 transfer name		.10
F. J. Shores, Transfers and recording tax sale		19.98
F. J. Shores, Search for mortgages, recording deeds		8.15
Brown & Saltmarsh, Supplies		30.71
Sargent Bros., Tax bills		8.70

N. H. Tax Collectors' Assn., dues	2.00
Charles R. Hardy, Clerk's dues	2.00
The Colby Press, Town Reports,	85.00
The U. S. Auto and Truck Guide	4.50
Bank charges	.96
Total	\$ 365.38

Election and Registration:

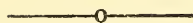
Lillian E. Colby, Supervisor	\$ 57.60
Ernest E. Matthews, Supervisor	57.60
Edythe M. Newton, Supervisor	57.60
Annie M. Esty, Ballot Clerk	17.60
Flora Matthews, Ballot Clerk	17.60
Agnes A. Lane, Moderator	18.40
Total	\$ 226.40

Miscellaneous Bills:

Bartlett & Swett Auto Co., Repairs on truck	251.96
State of N. H. Old Age Assistance	274.20
Samuel E. Lane, Health Dept.	13.45
Charles F. Place, Bounties	35.50
Thomas Newton, Fire Warden	59.20
N. H. Explosives Co., Plow shoes	37.24
Ernest E. Matthews, Bounties	6.50
Myrtle Smith, Bounties	1.50
Robert J. Higgins, Bounties	40.50
Walter Stevens, Bounties	8.50
Floyd Colby, Bounties	16.00
Paul Latulippe, Bounties	3.50
Joan Place, Bounties	2.00

Kenneth Bull, Bounties	20.00
William B. Hobb, Bounties	17.50
John C. Ray, Ins. on Town truck	35.30
R. C. Hazelton Co., Inc. Culverts	111.51
State of N. H., Forestry Dept, Fire tools	39.09
Thomas Newton, Police Dept.	8.00
N. H. Electric Coop. Inc., Lights in Town Hall	18.00
Flora Matthews, Library Treas.	200.00
Floyd Colby, Janitor	10.00
Annie M. Esty, Taxes bought by Town	333.68
Carroll Matthews, Mowing Town House yard	10.00
Ernest E. Matthews, Fire Warden	15.70
Floyd Colby, Mowing Cemetery	12.00
Barnard's Garage, Repairs on truck	151.37
Treas. State of N. H., Tarring road	1,473.19
Treas. State of N. H., State Aid Cons. Appro.	696.00
Groton School District	3,805.28
Harry S. Huckins, County Treas., County tax	1,107.09
Ileene A. Matthews, Vital Statistics	5.00
Trustees of the Trust Funds, Capital Res. Fund. App.	2,000.00
Dartmouth-Lake Sunapee Region Ass'n.	42.00
State of N. H., Patching road	139.80
John H. Foster, Blister Rust Appro.	200.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 11,200.56

ROAD AGENT'S REPORT



Special Culvert-Supervision of Perley D. Matthews

Perley Matthews, Labor	\$	17.10
Perley Matthews, Truck		22.00
Edgar McClellan Labor		17.60
Walter Hobart, Labor		13.60
Walter Merrill, Truck		22.00
		<hr/>
Total	\$	92.30



South End Road-Supervision of Perley D. Matthews

Perley D. Matthews, Labor	\$	98.00
Perley Matthews, Team		39.20
Perley Matthews, Truck		122.00
Vernon Matthews, Labor		46.40
Walter Hobart, Labor		72.30
Edgar McClellan, Labor		49.60
Ernest Matthews, Jr., Labor		9.60
Ernest Matthews, Labor		40.00
Cavis Brothers, Shovels		4.63
Walter Merrill, Sand		6.60
Sarah Dunkerton, Gravel		2.10
Collector of Internal Revenue, Withholding tax		4.70
		<hr/>
Total	\$	495.13

North End Road-Supervision of Charles H. Tarr

Charles H. Tarr, Labor	\$	234.90
Charles H. Tarr, Team		80.80
William Allen, Labor		30.20
Floyd H. Colby, Labor		135.20
Ernest E. Matthews, Labor		135.20
Lewis Albert, Labor		33.40
Lewis Albert, Truck		45.00
Carl Bowles, Labor		4.80
Carl Bowles, Team		2.40
Lawrence Bowles, Labor		19.20
James Parris, Labor		57.60
Edmund Houle, Labor		17.70
Lucien J. Parris, Labor		6.40
Ernest Carter, Labor		45.60
Ernest Carter, Truck		57.00
Lucien M. Parris, Labor		19.20
Lucien M. Parris, Team		6.40
Lucien M. Parris, truck		16.00
Ben Cook, Labor		15.20
Ben Cook, Truck		19.00
Fred Goss, Labor		19.20
Arthur Ashley, Gravel		10.80
Floyd H. Colby, Paid for Gas		15.20
Floyd H. Colby, Moving tractor		5.00
Foster Brothers, Shovels		1.83
Collector of Internal Revenue, Withholding tax		5.90
Total	\$	1,039.13

Snow Removal-Supervision of Ernest E Matthews

E. E. Matthews, Labor	\$	796.20
E. E. Matthews, -Money paid out		8.25
Floyd H. Colby, Labor		487.50
Charles F. Place, Labor		9.20
Perley D. Matthews, Labor		6.40
Edgar C. McClellan, Labor		5.60
Carroll Matthews, Labor		1.80
Walter Hobart, Labor		2.40
Eugene Place, Labor		3.20
Norris Smith, Labor		17.10
State of N. H., Plowing		20.00
Charles F. Place, Gas and oil		224.00
Barnards Garage, Gas and oil		3.94
Perley D. Matthews, Truck		7.00
Walter Merrill, Cross chains		7.38
Walter Merrill, Sand		3.50
Walter Stevens, Car hire		1.00
Deming Oil Co., Gas		91.60
Rand's Hardware Co., Wire for snow fence		11.95
Collector of Internal Revenue, Withholding tax		19.70
Total		\$ 1,727.72

REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS OF THE TOWN OF GROTON, FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1948.

DATE OF CREATION	TRUST FUNDS PURPOSE OF CREATION	HOW INVESTED	AMOUNT		Balance		Balance	
			OF	Rate of	of Income	Income	Expended	of Income
	All trust funds should be reported separately giving name of fund and donor	State character and rate of return for each investment State also if funds were borrowed or used for city or town purposes and indicate whether notes have been used as required by Chapter 51, Section 23, Revised Laws	PRINCIPAL	Int.	at Beginning of Year	During Year	During Year	on Hand at end of Year
George W Hall Fund	George W Hall	Deposited in the Plymouth Savings Bank.	\$ 26.00	2 %	\$ 24.64	1.04	1.50	24.18
	Care of Hall Lot in Union Cemetery	U. S. Savings Bond F Series	74.00					
	Cyrus Blood Fund	Deposited in the Plymouth Savings Bank.	\$ 13.00	2 %	10.04	.46		10.50
Care of Cyrus Blood Lot in Rolle Hill Cemetery		U. S. Savings Bond F Series	37.00					
		Deposited in the Plymouth Savings Bank.	\$ 4000.00	2 %	50.12	27.37		77.49
Town of Groton Fund for post war project.			Totals	\$ 4,150.00	\$ 84.80	\$ 28.87	1.50	\$ 112.17

This is to certify that the information contained in this report is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief.
 FLOYD H COLBY, AGNES A. LANE, Trustees
 Examined and found correct. FLORA MATTHEWS, VIOLET PARRIS, Auditors.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

— 0 —

Resources

Books owned January 1, 1948	1804
Books added during the year	7
Bookmobile	200
State Report, etc.	6
Magazines currently received	6

Service

Volumns of fiction lent	379
Volumns of non-fiction lent	161
Volumns of juvenile fiction lent	200

Total Circulation	740
New Borrowers	13
Regular Borrowers	10
School Children	11

Librarian's Cash Statement

Amount on hand January 1, 1948	\$	10.84
Received from fines		4.27
M. F. Warner Gift		5.00
Butternuts sold		3.50
Received from Treasurer .. .		15.00
Total Receipts	\$	38.61

Expenses

Spent for books and magazine subscriptions ..	\$	12.70
Postage and checks .....		.77
Book ends		6.00
Total Expenses	\$	19.47
Amount on hand January 1, 1949	\$	19.14

LIBRARY TREASURER'S REPORT



Receipts January 1, 1948 to December 31, 1948

January 1, Cash on hand	\$	28.29
August, From Selectmen		50.00
December 18, From Selectmen		150.00
		<hr/>
Total receipts	\$	228.29

Payments

Feb. 14, Jean Place, Cleaning	\$	2.00
July, N. H. Elec. Coop., Lights		18.00
Oct. 3, Insurance		7.00
Dec. 22 Dorothy Place, Janitor		15.00
Agnes A. Lane, Salary		96.00
Agne A. Lane, Books		15.00
Flora Matthews, kindling		5.00
Flora Matthews, Salary and postage		4.12
Personal Check Book		2.00
		<hr/>
Total Payments	\$	164.12
Cash on hand		64.17
		<hr/>
	\$	228.29

FLORA MATTHEWS, Treasurer

Annual Report
of the
SCHOOL DISTRICT
of

GROTON

for

Fiscal Year

JULY 1, 1947 - JUNE 30, 1948

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

OF

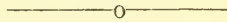
GROTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SCHOOL DIRECTORY

District Officers

Mrs. Agnes A. Lane Moderator
 Mrs. Ileene A. Matthews Treasurer
 Mrs. Ileene A. Matthews Clerk
 Mrs. Flora Matthews Auditor



School Board

Mrs. Violet Parris Term expires 1949
 Mrs. Yvonne Stevens Term expires 1950
 Mrs. Annie M. Esty Term expires 1951

Teacher

Mrs. Ida G. Sirrine South Groton

Superintendent of Schools

C. Maurice Gray

Mrs. Anna Lovett, R. N.

FINANCIAL REPORT

of

School Treasurer

For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1948

Summary:

Cash on hand June 30, 1947	\$	237.92
Received from Selectmen, appropriation		3,745.50
Received from State Treasurer		193.17
<hr/>		
Total Amount Available for Fiscal Year	\$	4,176.59
Less School Board orders paid		3,734.77
<hr/>		
Balance on hand June 30, 1948	\$	441.82

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS, District Treasurer

 Auditors' Certificate

This is to certify that I have examined the books, vouchers, bank statements and other financial records of the treasurer of the School District of Groton, of which the above is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1948 and find them correct in all respects.

FLORA MATTHEWS, Auditor

SCHOOL BOARDS' REPORT

Receipts:

Cash on hand June 30, 1947	\$	237.92
From Selectmen		3,745.50
From State Treasurer		193.17
		<hr/>
Total Receipts	\$	4,176.59

Detailed Statement of Payments**Salaries of District Officers:**

Flora Matthews, Auditor	\$	3.20
Annie M. Esty, School board		20.00
Violet Parris, School board		20.00
Yvonne Stevens, School board		10.00
Agnes Lane, Moderator		2.90
Ileene Matthews, Treasurer		30.00
		<hr/>
	\$	86.10

Superintendent's Salary:

Supervisory Union No. 4		110.99
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Truant Officer and Census:

Annie Esty		5.00
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Expenses of Administration:

Supervisory Union No. 4, clerk expense	\$	44.96
John C. Ray, treasurer's bond		5.00
Musgrove Printing House, notices		5.06
The Record Print, notices		3.25
First National Bank, service charges		1.59
Thomas Newton, trip for school board		13.00
Annie Esty, expenses		4.25
Ileene Matthews, postage		.31
Flora Braley, trip to Canaan for School Board		3.00
Edward E. Babb, supplies		.66
		<hr/>
	\$	81.08

Teacher's Salary:

Ida Sirrine	\$ 1,575.00
Teacher's Retirement	50.40
Collector of Internal Revenue	107.10
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,732.50

Text Books:

The Grolier Society, Inc.	\$ 6.08
Laidlaw Brothers	7.06
American Book Company	1.63
The Macmillan Company	2.80
Row, Peterson & Co.	4.11
	<hr/>
	\$ 21.68

Scholars' Supplies:

J. L. Hammett Co.	\$ 2.12
Cardigan Sport Store	1.70
Musgrove Printing House	.30
Edward E. Babb Co.	1.83
Cascade Paper Co.	10.08
	<hr/>
	\$ 16.03

Other Expenses of Instruction:

J. L. Hammett Co., supplies	\$.73
A. W. Moody, ice cream for graduation	5.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 5.73

Janitor Service:

Eugene Place	\$ 71.25
Ida Sirrine	3.75
	<hr/>
	\$ 75.00

Fuel:

Orville Matthews, 5 cords wood	\$	75.00
Carroll Matthews, sawing wood		12.50
R. O. Patterson, slab wood		11.00
		<hr/>
		98.50

Water, Light and Janitor Supplies:

H. J. Follansbee Co., axe and handle	\$	3.50
Floyd Colby, cleaning toilets		4.00
George Greenwood & Son, installing toilets		35.03
		<hr/>
	\$	42.53

Minor Repairs and Expenses:

Yvonne Stevens, cleaning school house		4.40
Myrtle Smith, cleaning school house		4.40
Gladhill Brothers, Inc., clock		12.28
		<hr/>
	\$	21.08

Medical Inspection:

Anna Lovett, R. N.	\$	42.92
Teachers' Retirement Board		1.40
		<hr/>
	\$	51.32

Transportation of Pupils:

Fred White	\$	900.00
High School Tuition:		
Bristol School District	\$	120.00
Plymouth School District		242.34
		<hr/>
		362.34

Elementary Tuition:

Dorchester School District	\$	25.00
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Par Capita Tax:		
F. Gordon Kimball, State Treasurer	\$	34.00
Other Fixed Charges:		
Teachers' Retirement Board	\$	60.00
Old Bills:		
Edson C. Eastman, Record Book	\$	2.06
Cardigan Sport Shop, ball and bat		3.83
	<hr/>	
	\$	5.89
Total Expenses	\$	3,734.77

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Certificate

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records, and is complete and correct to the best of our knowledge and belief. The accounts are kept in accordance with Public Law 1926 Chapter 28:22 and upon forms furnished by the State Tax Commission.

VIOLET PARRIS,

YVONNE STEVENS,

ANNIE M. ESTY,

School Board of Groton

Auditors' Certificate

This is to certify that I have examined the books and other financial records of the school board of Groton of which this is a true summary for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1948, and find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

FLORA MATTHEWS,

Auditor

GENERAL STATISTICS

Enrollment by Grades

Grade	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Totals
1947-48	2	1	2	0	2	2	1	2	12
Dec. 1948-49	1	2	1	2	0	2	2	3	13

District Totals

	Average Att.	Av. Abs.	Av. Memb.	% Att.
1947-1948	11.00	1.	12	91.67
Dec. 1948-1949	12.81	.41	13.22	96.90

Tuition Pupils

Plymouth	Brian Parris	Grade 9	Rate \$129.14
Plymouth	Mae White	Grade 9	
Plymouth	Jenny Latullippe	Grade 10	
Bristol	Carroll Matthews	Grade 12	130.00
Dorchester	Norman Waldron	Grade 1	

School Calendar 1949-1950

Term Opens	Term Closes
September 6, 1949	December 23, 1949
January 3, 1950	February 17, 1950
February 27, 1950	April 14, 1950
April 24, 1950	

No school may close until completion of 180 days of school including 3 for institutes and conventions, and up to 5 for workshops.

Days out: Plymouth Fair, May 30.

Single Sessions: November 23, December 23.

Pupils may enter first grade provided they are 6 before Jan. 1
Vaccination is required by State law unless child has written excuse from doctor.

SCHOOL BOARDS' ESTIMATE FOR 1949-1950
Detailed Statement of Expenditures

Support of Schools:

Teacher's Salary	\$ 1,800.00
Text Books	40.00
Scholars' Supplies	35.00
Other Expenses of Instruction	20.00
Janitor Service	75.00
Fuel	115.00
Water, Light, Janitor's Supplies	60.00
Minor Repairs and Expenses	50.00
Health Supervision	60.00
Transportation of Pupils	900.00
Other Special Activities	10.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 3,165.00

Other Statutory Requirements:

Salaries of District Officers	\$ 130.00
Truant Officer and School Census	10.00
Payment of Tuition in High Schools and Academies	600.00
Superintendent's Salary	152.00
Per Capita Tax	34.00
Other Obligations of the District	303.50
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,229.50

Total Amount Required to Meet

School Boards' Budget	\$ 4,394.50
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ESTIMATED INCOME OF DISTRICT

State Aid	\$ 193.17
Dog Tax	40.00

Total Estimated Income of District

Assessment Required to Balance

School Boards' Budget	\$ 4,161.33
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VIOLET PARRIS,
 YVONNE STEVENS,
 ANNIE ESTY,

School Board

COMPARATIVE SCHOOL BUDGETS

	1947-1948	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
	Budget	Spent	Budget	Estimate
Salaries of district officers	\$ 145.00	86.10	125.00	130.00
Superintendent's Salary	90.00	110.99	120.00	152.00
Truant officer and census	10.00	5.00	10.00	10.00
Expenses of administration	130.00	81.08	130.00	130.00
Teachers' salary	1,800.00	1,732.50	1,800.00	1,800.00
Text books	40.00	21.68	40.00	40.00
Scholars' supplies	35.00	16.03	35.00	35.00
Other expenses of instruction	20.00	5.73	20.00	20.00
Janitor service	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
Fuel	100.00	98.50	105.00	115.00
Water light and janitor supplies	60.00	42.53	60.00	60.00
Minor repairs and expenses	25.00	21.08	25.00	50.00
Medical supervision	60.00	51.32	60.00	60.00
Transportation of pupils	900.00	900.00	900.00	900.00
High school tuition	575.00	362.34	260.00	600.00
Elementary tuition		25.00		
Other special activities	10.00		5.00	10.00
Per capita tax	34.00	34.00	32.00	34.00
Insurance and other charges	54.00	60.00	98.40	173.50
New equipment	10.00		5.00	
Old bills		5.89		
Totals	\$ 4,173.00	3,734.77	3,977.45	4,394.50

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

1948-1949

Teacher Training. During the past two years considerable work has been done by the teachers to improve their teaching. Two elementary workshops under the supervision of the State Board of Education have been held. One of these was in the field of social studies and the last one in art. These were very well conducted by the state staffs and the response by the teachers very fine. The first one of these "broke the ice" and the desire of the teachers to do more for their pupils then took the form of taking extension courses during the winter, and summer courses later, and again this winter by more extension courses with teachers in Canaan traveling to Tilton once a week to attend a course sponsored by Plymouth Teachers' College. It has been impossible for all teachers to take summer or extension courses because of varying circumstances but the general response has been encouraging. It is hoped that this trend will continue and increase in participation as the good results are discussed by teachers themselves. Bridgewater and Danbury school boards have paid part of the costs of summer sessions. This is an increasing tendency particularly where no salary schedule exists which often makes salary increases based in part on extra study. Bristol joined with Tilton and Belmont in a high school workshop which was most challenging and thought provoking but was of such a nature that time is needed to properly evaluate the content and to make haste slowly in curriculum revision and methods of teaching. The greatest value of all of these devices has been to renew the individual's desire to learn more about teaching and youngsters so that each pupil may be better taught. It might not be wrong to point out that the higher level of pay of teachers may be in part a contributing factor of self improvement.

Critical Shortage of Elementary Teachers. Much has been written on local, state, and National levels on the critical shortage of elementary teachers. It is not a local problem but a national one due to become more acute as the pre-school youngsters pour into the elementary schools requiring many more teachers in this field. To be perfectly frank about the whole situation anyone belittling the thing this is ill informed to say the least. Often there are good teachers living in an area who will or can not teach for one reason or another. For all practical purposes they don't exist. There are always some on the spring lists of teachers who are looking for a job every year. Perhaps the best indication of the shortage is the fact that a city superintendent will write into a teachers' college and offer to take sight unseen the whole graduating class. It is my firm belief that teachers well qualified with either successful teaching experience or bright prospects of the same will remain in critical supply for 10 to 15 years at least, and this in spite of the fact that school men throughout the nation are devoting much thought and time to easing the situation.

Increasing Costs. A 10 percent increase in costs of supplies books etc. seems to be the general opinion. This might well include fuel, telephone rates etc. It is difficult to see how these costs will drop and level off in the near future. Structural costs are out of sight and will remain there as long as defence and housing demands remain as much in demand as at present. Department of Labor cost of living indexes show about 16 percent rise in the last two years with only slight drops in some items during the past few months.

The Tax Burden. The property tax still bears the heavy part of all costs on the local levels including school and town expenses. In spite of conservative evaluations the property tax is a major item, and is bearing a load all out of proportion

to its capacity. New Hampshire tax laws need careful study and revision to not only relieve the property tax but to absorb increased costs of items over which we locally have no control. When we see and hear the need of new buildings, when we know that there will literally be millions more in our schools soon we begin to raise our eyebrows less at the thought of more state and federal aid, both branches of government having sources of tax monies not taxable at the local level. The consumer will pay in the end but all people do not consume the same things, and much wealth in the United States may be found which is not real estate. The tax problem will be one we should all follow in the legislature which will be in session by the time this is in print.

Tuition Charges. There seems to be a general misunderstanding of tuition charges and since all towns are either on the receiving or paying end of this proposition it would seem well to explain some phases of this. A school district may charge a high school tuition up to its average cost of instruction provided this cost is lower than the state average. In case its costs are greater it may charge the state average. In figuring cost either locally or on the state level four items in the budget are counted: (1) Teachers salaries; (2) Text Books; (3) Scholars' Supplies (4) Other Expenses of Instruction. The total of these costs divided by the average membership for the same year gives the cost of instruction. In past years most places have charged a figure well under this. However with increasing costs in these items there is a strong trend throughout the state to charge the actual money spent, especially now that state aid is mostly based on equalized evaluation of property. Obviously there are other costs such as heat, lights, janitor service, minor repairs and expenses other special activities, insurance, new equipment and alterations of old buildings, which are a part of overall costs.

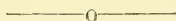
On a contractual basis a school district might charge another district a per pupil charge for those items. Few districts do so however. It should be pointed out that this era may be slowly drawing to a close especially where new building construction is contemplated either to take care of increased enrollments, or to offer a better educational program. Building costs are so prohibitive that few, if any of the districts maintaining high schools can build on any other basis other than charging a rate to cover everything including capital improvements and interest, or on a cooperative basis with other towns taking advantage of present or future laws.

State Legislation. There will be bills introduced in the general court which will have far reaching effects in New Hampshire whether or not they become laws. At this point all we can do is suggest that they get our best study and considered action. This is our legislature and "We are the People".

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Maurice Gray, Superintendent

VITAL STATISTICS



Marriages

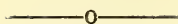
In the Weirs, N. H., May 16, 1948, by Rev. Oscar M. Poulseusus, Clarence Adrian Remick of Groton, N. H., son of Flora (Gurney) Remick of Groton, N. H. and Robina June Southard, of Bristol, N. H., daughter of Harry and Jennie (Tibbetts) Southard of Bristol, N. H.

In Rumney, N. H., July 31, 1948, by Leslie L. Bunker Justice of the Peace, Lucien James Parris of Groton, N. H., son of Lucien and Violet (Parris) Parris of Groton, N. H. and Lillian Grace Marsden of Plymouth, N. H., daughter of John and Shirley (Kellog) Marsden of Plymouth, N. H.

In Hebron, N. H., September 12, 1948, by Rev. J. McVickar Haight, Frank Elmer Matthews, Jr., of Groton, N. H., son of Frank and Lena (Hobart) Matthews of Groton, N. H., and Marion Elizabeth Bestick of Hebron, N. H., daughter of D. Miller and Marion (Pierce) Bestick of Hebron, N. H.

In Bristol, N. H., November 10, 1948, by Rev. Brownlow Thompson, Frederick Irving Taylor, of Groton, N. H. son of Frederick W. Taylor of Groton, N. H., and Ruth Eva McIntyre of Groton, N. H.

Births

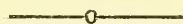


In Franklin, N. H., March 24, 1948, a daughter Maria Jane, to Edgar C. and Lillian P. McClellan, of Groton, N. H.

In Groton, N. H., May 16, 1948, a daughter Loretta Gene, to Frederick and Gloria P. Landon, of Groton, N. H.

In Plymouth, N. H., September 18, 1948, a daughter Gayle Elizabeth to Walter S. and Yvonne R. Stevens, of Groton, N. H.

Deaths



In Haverhill, N. H., May 1, 1948, Erta Ford of Groton, N. H., age 73 years, 8 months, 27 days.

In Franklin, N. H., July 8, 1948, Thomas Newton, of Groton, N. H., age 62 years, 11 days.

In Groton, N. H., August 10, 1948, Philander Hurd of Groton, N. H., age 82 years, 11 months, 16 days.

I hereby certify that the above records are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ILEENE A. MATTHEWS,

Town Clerk

REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Your local organization to prevent and extinguish brush and woods fires is glad to report a good year of forest protection in 1948. In spite of danger conditions nearly equalling at times those of 1947 when great losses were suffered in New Hampshire and New England, fire damage and loss this year have been gratifyingly low.

With the continuing cooperation of all the people, we can hope to have another successful year in 1949. Let us remember that in any year, over 90 percent of all fires are caused by carelessness and that all of these man caused fires are preventable.

Today, we have more slash and uncut grassland than for years in the past.—Smokers, campers and tourists who use our outdoors are also more numerous than ever before. We must therefore be ready for fires which might occur but, above all, prevention by everyone is the greatest need.

A few simple precautions taken by every citizen will help, as follows:

- (1) Always get a written permit from the warden before kindling a fire outdoors when the ground is not covered with snow.
- (2) If you smoke, always extinguish matches and tobacco before dropping or throwing down. In automobiles, always use ash trays.
- (3) Report fires and smokes to the warden without delay.

The observance of these and other simple rules will go far to insure safety from fire damage and your cooperation in this way is earnestly solicited.

1948 Fire-Record for Town of Groton

Number of Fires	No fires during 1948
Number of Fire Permits Issued	6

Respectfully Submitted,

George F. Richardson, Jr,
District Fire Chief

Ernest Matthew
Forest Fire Warden

